Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, Group I claims 1-13 for prosecution at this time.

Claims 14-22 of Group II are being filed in a divisional application.

An action on the merits is requested.

This election is believed to place this case in condition for examination, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to provide an action on the merits.

In the event there are any further issues outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney for applicant at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Jun Akedo

by:

MARTIN A. FARBER
Attorney for Applicant
Registered Representative
Registration No. 22,345

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Election is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope address to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 27, 2003.

Dated: June 27, 2003

MARTIN A. KARBER

866 United Nations Plaza New York, NY 10017 (212) 758-2878